PLAGUES (PART 2)

WISDOM of SOLOMON 16.5-14 (insects & brazen serpent)

5. "For when the terrible rage of wild animals
came upon your people
and they were being destroyed by the bites
of writhing serpents,
your wrath did not come to an end,
They were troubled for a little while as a
warning, and
received a symbol of deliverance to remind
them of your law's command.

7. For the one who turned toward it (the symbol
of deliverance) was saved,
not by the thing that was beheld (the symbol of
deliverance)
but (they were saved) by you, the Savior of all.

PHILO on the BRAZEN SERPENT

" Now the serpent was the most subtle of beasts
... 2 things having been previously created
... MIND and OUTWARD SENSE
... having been stripped naked
(mind naked: MIND NAKED of its power of EXCITING
THE INTELLECT; 'times when seeing - we do not see'
(times) when 'hearing - we do not hear)
(OUTWARD SENSE NAKED of its power of sensation,
OUTWARD SENSATION DEPRIVED OF THE POWER OF
EXERCISING ITSELF)

MIND, without ability to excite intellect
SENSES, WITHOUT FEELING SENSATION
...
they have nothing disgraceful in them;
But the moment that they display any comprehension,

they become masked in shame and insolence
(rude and disrespectful behavior):

for they will often be found behaving with
simplicity and folly
rather than any sound knowledge...

in the general conduct of life: for when
the outward sense has the dominion -
the mind is enslaved,

giving its (mind's) attention to NO ONE
PROPER OBJECT (≈ when the mind is enslaved
by dominion of outward senses, the mind
does NOT give its attention to any)
proper object of its (the mind's) intellect, and

when the mind is predominant (with dominion
over UNEXERCISED SENSATIONS),
the UNTOWARD SENSE (UNRULY AND DIFFICULT TO
GUIDE SENSATIONS) is seen to be WITHOUT
EMPLOYMENT, having no comprehension of
any proper object of its (outward sensations)
own exercise.

"... it follows of necessity That PLEASURE, which brings these two (MIND deprived of ability to stimulate intellectual) + (body deprived of stimulating sensually) TOGETHER must be the THIRD (creation which GOD made)

for the purpose of facilitating the comprehension of the objects of intellect and (the objects of) of the outward sense

for neither could the mind, without the outward sense, be able to comprehend the nature of any animal or plant, or of a stone or of a piece of wood, or of any substance whatever

NOR could the outward sense (be able to) exercise its proper faculties without the mind.

(PLEASURE) acted as a bond between them, (MIND and SENSES) representing LOVE AND DESIRE, AND PLEASURE NOT obtaining the DOMINION AND MASTERY...
PLEASURE (WHICH) MOSES speaks of, SYMBOLICALLY, under the EMBLEM of THE SERPENT. {